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Questions Linger on JFK

Both the Associated Press, and the Columbia Broadcasting System have performed notable public services in their massive endeavors to separate fact from fiction in the mystery still surrounding the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Readers and watchers have been deeply impressed by the thoroughness and objectivity with which both media attacked the mass of information and misinformation concerning the Dallas tragedy.

One unfortunate aftermath is that both reader and watcher now may be entertaining honest doubt whether Lee Harvey Oswald, the killer, might have had an association with one of the American intelligence agencies.

✓ CBS said bluntly that "it is not frivolous" to suspect that he did have some sort of a link with the FBI or the CIA.

The network was sharply critical of the Warren Commission for allowing the FBI

and the CIA to answer questions concerning their own actions when the commission had the power to conduct its own independent investigation.

The AP report does not share this view and this disparity between two reputable and respected purveyors of information serves to becloud the public mind.

If millions of Americans believe there was something suspicious about Oswald's sudden trip to Russia shortly after he was discharged from the Marine Corps "for dire need," there is necessity to disclose the facts and rout suspicions.

John J. McCloy, a member of the commission, did a masterful job of defending the commission's complete integrity but he also admitted that the commission was remiss in not demanding to see the X-rays and pictures of the autopsy.

As long as the Dallas story remains confused, irresponsible persons will seek to capitalize on the doubt.